THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) Geological Survey of India (GSI) has established gold resources in Andhra Pradesh between 1997 and 2005.

(b) The estimated quantity is shown below:

1. Dona Temple Block, Anantapur district 0.70 million tonne of ore with 4.65 g/t of gold
2. Dona East Block, Anantapur district 7.92 million tonne of ore with 2.07 g/t of gold.
3. Dona South Block, Anantapur district 1.11 million tonne of ore with 1.16 to 6.28 g/t of gold.
4. Dona North Block, Anantapur district 0.09 million tonne with 3.85 g/t of gold.

Import and production of asbestos

2058. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the chrysolite asbestos imported during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the details of the chrysolite asbestos production in the country during the last three years, year wise and State-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that chrysolite asbestos mining has been banned in Andhra Pradesh;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the permissible international norms for dust pollution in chrysolite asbestos mining?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) The details are given below:

(in tonnes)

2002-2003	2003-2004	200402005 (Provisional)
76,143	1,34,931	1,36,016

(b) The details are given below:

(in tonnes)

State	2002-2003	2003-2004 (Provisional)	2004-05
Andhra Pradesh	857	849	795
Rajasthan	0	0	0
Total	857	849	795

(c) and (d) In view of the deleterious effect of asbestos mining on the health of workers, the Government have ordered the State Governments in 1986 not to grant any new mining lease for asbestos (including chrysotile variety) in the country. In June 1993, Government further stopped the renewal of existing mining leases of asbestos in the country.

(e) As per information available, the permissible international norms for exposure to chrysotile, is 0.1 fiber per cubic centimeter for a worker on an eight hour time weighted average value.

Industrial houses in mines sector

2059. SHRI RAJU PARMAR:
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of industrial houses have shown interest in mines sector;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) the details of mines allotted in public sector/private sector during the last two years; and

(d) the total revenue earned by Government from this sector during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) and (b) A large number of companies have applied for mineral concessions. Mineral concessions are granted by State Governments. Prior approval of this Ministry is required in respect of atomic minerals and ten metallic and non-metallic major minerals. 218 prior approvals were given in the last two years by Ministry of Mines of which 169 were in favour of various companies.

(c) The details of mining leases granted by the State Governments for